

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN KARL WAITSCHIES**, on March 7, 2005 at 10:00 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Karl Waitschies, Chairman (R)
Rep. Gary Branae, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Bob Lake, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. John Balyeat (R)
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)
Rep. Margaret H. Campbell (D)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Tom Facey (D)
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)
Rep. George G. Groesbeck (D)
Rep. Dennis Himmelberger (R)
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)
Rep. Jim Peterson (R)
Rep. Holly Raser (D)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)
Rep. Scott Sales (R)
Rep. Bill Warden (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: Rep. Norma Bixby (D)

Staff Present: Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 717, 3/1/2005; HB 760, 3/2/2005

Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 717**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:01 REP. BILL WARDEN (R), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 717, Constitutional amendment to prohibit both a sales tax and income tax.

Proponents' Testimony:

Mike Fellows, Chairman, Montana Libertarian Party via letter

[EXHIBIT](#)(tah50a01)**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:09:22 Rita Blouke, Legislative Steering Committee, League of Women Voters of Montana

[EXHIBIT](#)(tah50a02)

00:11:53 Gene Fenderson, Montana Progressive Labor Caucus

Informational Testimony: None.**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:12:29 REP. LAMBERT
00:14:12 REP. WISEMAN
00:17:47 REP. BUTCHER
00:18:32 CHAIRMAN WAITSCHIES

Closing by Sponsor:

00:19:00 REP. BILL WARDEN (R) closed the hearing on HB 717.

HEARING ON HB 760**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:19:54 REP. TOM MCGILLVRAY (R), HD 50, opened the hearing on HB 760, Sales tax and repeal of income tax.

[EXHIBIT](#)(tah50a03)**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:52:44 Ronda Carpenter-Wiggers, Great Falls Chamber of Commerce, also speaking for Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association
00:53:44 Rich Miller, Executive Director, Gaming Industry Association of Montana

Opponents' Testimony:

00:54:36 Gene Fenderson, Montana Progressive Labor Caucus
00:58:34 Don Judge, Teamsters Local No. 190
01:05:03 Rita Blouke, Co-President, Helena League of Women
Voters

EXHIBIT (tah50a04)

Informational Testimony:

01:07:23 Larry Finch, Administrator of Tax Policy, Montana
Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:07:50 REP. McALPIN
01:10:04 REP. BUTCHER
01:15:50 REP. COHENOUR
01:20:05 REP. LAMBERT
01:21:01 REP. ROSS
01:23:02 REP. PETERSON
01:24:48 REP. WISEMAN
01:28:38 REP. HIMMELBERGER
01:30:34 REP. FACEY
01:32:45 REP. GROESBECK
01:38:06 REP. COHENOUR
01:39:26 REP. RASER
01:41:51 REP. HIMMELBERGER
01:43:31 CHAIRMAN WAITSCHIES

Closing by Sponsor:

01:45:56 REP. TOM MCGILLVRAY (R), closed the hearing on
HB 760.

01:50:19

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:00 P.M.

REP. KARL WAITSCHIES, Chairman

DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

KW/dp

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([tah50aad0.PDF](#))